

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-07

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 L-01 H-01 CIAE-00 INR-05

NSAE-00 RSC-01 INRE-00 /020 R

DRAFTED BY AF/E:GDKULICK:JR

APPROVED BY AF/E:RSBARRETT

SCS/SCA:NHUDSON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: CASC (LIGHT, DAVID)

SUBJECT: DETENTION OF DAVID LIGHT

1. DAVID LIGHT'S MOTHER TELEPHONED DEPT TODAY TO SAY SHE WAS "AT WIT'S END", AND WAS CONSIDERING REPORTING STORY OF HER SON'S DETENTION TO PRESS IN HOPES THIS WOULD BRING PRESSURE ON GSDR. HOWARD CROOKS, MANAGER OF OIL FIELD SUPPLIES IN NAIROBI, SIMILARLY IS CONSIDERING RELEASING STORY TO AFRICAN PRESS. MRS. LIGHT SAID SHE WAS ALSO TELEPHONING AMBASSADOR ADDOU AND WOULD ASK CONGRESSMAN HOWARD ROBISON TO WRITE ADDOU ON HER BEHALF. SHE SAID SHE BELIEVED DEPT AND EMBASSY WERE DOING ALL THAT THEY COULD, BUT LACK OF RESULTS SO FAR PROMPTED HER TO TAKE NEW STEPS.

2. DEPOFF TOLD MRS. LIGHT HER INTENTION TO INVOKE MEDIA IF GSDR INTRANSIGENT WOULD BE REPORTED TO EMBASSY WITH A REQUEST THAT EMBASSY INFORM GSDR. SINCE GOVERNMENTS USUALLY WISH TO AVOID UNFAVORABLE PUBLICITY, THIS MIGHT BE ADDED STIMULUS TO ACTION. DEPTOFF
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ASKED HER TO DELAY BRINGING IN PRESS FOR A FEW MORE

DAYS IN HOPES THREAT OF BAD PUBLICITY WOULD PRODUCE
MOVEMENT. SHE SAID SHE AGREED AND SHE WOULD ASK CROOKS

TO HOLD OFF AS WELL WHEN SHE SPEAKS TO HIM BY TELEPHONE
AT 1800 HOURS EST TODAY.

3. REQUEST THREAT OF UNFAVORABLE PUBLICITY BE PASSED
TO GSDR AND THAT GSDR BE INFORMED MRS. LIGHT HAS
AGREED TO DELAY PUBLICITY FOR A FEW DAYS PENDING GSDR'S
RESPONSE TO HER URGENT PLEA. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Drafter: GDKULICK:JR
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30 JUN 2005

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